

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:47:08 1995
Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:47:08 -0500
Message-Id: <199506171149.AA14919@shore.shore.net>
From: Michael Crestohl <mc@shore.net>
Subject: A Visit from the Tron / TCS Station Sold!

Hello to All Keepers of the Filament Strings!!!

Cynthia and I have a most distinguished visitor this weekend. Tim, WA1HLR, also known as The Tron and Henry nYellar, "just a piss-weak little mobile", etc. He's in town to visit "The Old Man" for Father's Day. Unfortunately his Dad lives in a condo in Watertown with only one parking space so Tim's staying over with us.

Last night he showed up and he took a close interest in the two TCS stations I picked up earlier this spring in my hamfesting trips. It didn't matter to him that the transmitter was modified to a Pi-network output, It was complete and relatively clean, with AC/PS, cables and manual. I let him have it for what I had into it, because he's Tim and. knowing him, he'll work out simple mods that will make them sound like little broadcast rigs, so these mods should be forthcoming soon.....whenever Tim feels like playing with them! So, for the two guys thinking about whether or not to buy my second station - sorry - its been SOLD!

Cynthia cooked up a big batch of Jamaican Jerk Chicken with rice and peas and we had a great pig-out right here in Nahant. We look forward to Tim's semi-annual overnights here in Nahant. I'm very pleased that Cynthia likes Tim and is genuinely happy to see him whenever our paths cross. She loves to listen to him on 75 too!

Anyways, we sat around and shot the 10-1000 (he told me a couple of tales of running around with you, Jack ;^) He crapped out around 1AM. He'll be spending the day at this Dad's place. Then tonight we're going to a (non-ham-radio) party at my friend Francesca's house in Brookline. Then tomorrow morning, the monthly M.I.T. Flea! So we're gonna be busy. We have to run over to K1TWF's place in Chelmsford to pick up the other TCS AC supply for Tim and visit the B.A.R.S. group who are busily preparing their equipment for next weekend - Field Day.

I'll file another report later!

Cordially,

MrMike KH6KD/W1
mc@shore.net

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:41:58 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:41:58 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9506161126.C19762-01000000@indy3>
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>
Subject: Re: Alice's Valve shop

On Fri, 16 Jun 1995, Nick England wrote:

> Somewhere in there are the 8x10 color glossy photos with the circuits
> and schematics on the back of each one...

....And then the Baliff said "All rise" and we all stood up and the Judge came in carrying a little black case and sat down, and we all sat down. The Judge opened up the case and took out a MCElroy bug; the prosecutor looked down at the HT in his briefcase and realized it was another case of 20wpm CW justice and he was doomed....

(What I'm waiting for is for someone who remembers the song better than I do and is twisted enough to write the scene where Our Hapless Hero and the Sarge are both "...jumpin' up and down on the desk yellin' 'dit dit!' and then the Sarge sits down and says, 'Kid, I think you'll do.'" <grin>)

The critics are, of course, right, we'd do better rewriting big band/swing lyrics and/or WW II-era military songs; Guthrie's just such an *easy* one to redo that it's hard to pass up.

...Still, I'll send a small tube of Flitz metal & bakelite polish the the first person who can do a *CW* verse/chorus or two of "In The Mood" and have the sounds fit the meter *and* make sense, with reference to boatanchors! (I should point out that hardcore swing music is destroying our moral fiber and leading to the downfall of civilization--it's *good* stuff!)

73,
--Bobbi

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:18:05 1995
Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:18:05 -0500
Message-Id: <9506161252.aa02702@lunatix.lunatix.lex.ky.us>
From: "Greg Parsons A.K.A. Rat" <gparsons@lunatix.lex.ky.us>
Subject: Re: Alice's Valve shop

>
> Somewhere in there are the 8x10 color glossy photos with the circuits
> and schematics on the back of each one...

And circles with arrows showing the mods to the ACG on every one.

--

On a clear night when the wind is from the west, you can smell America
burning brite upon the night.

DoD #0862 Rat NRA Life Member Home Brewer from Hell(tm)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:21:16 1995

Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:21:16 -0500

Message-Id: <9506161731.AA01786@tomcat.adc.ray.com>

From: wendler@tomcat.adc.ray.com (John Wendler)

Subject: RE: Boat Anchors Song Book

> John,

>

> Would you volunteer to score the music for The Boatanchor Movie? :-):-)

>

>

> Regards,

> -----

> Jerry Proc, VE3FAB

> Radio Restoration Volunteer

> HMCS Haida

> E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com

> Toronto, Ontario

> -----

>

>

>

When vacuum tubes come back in vogue,

Hurrah, Hurrah,

When vacuum tubes come back in vogue,

Hurrah! Hurrah!

Our lights will dim and the plates will glow

our keys we'll tap and the breakers blow

and we'll all be glad for

candles in our homes!

...with apologies to George M. Cohan

(Yes, I know, this is WWI not WWII)

John

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:24:00 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:24:00 -0500
Message-Id: <199506161607.LAA15676@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: Brown Brothers

Gang,

A long long time ago in a galaxy far away, someone mentioned an expert on Brown Brothers located out on the Left Coast, a.k.a. 6-land. Who might that be?

Oppie (sp?) I admit it. I put that photocopy of the Collins 310B under the half-ton of garbage. Since we're seeing who can remember all the cute tidbits from A.G.'s "Alice's Restaurant".

I got one for you gang. Let's start a "Dweebs Platinum Version" of trivial pursuit!! Questions from boat anchors, old FCC regs, etc. Think it'd sell? Probably not.
:-)

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:03:54 1995
Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:03:54 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950617091203.7897C-100000@laurel.us.net>
From: "Tony Stalls (K4KY0)" <ras@us.net>
Subject: Re: Common sense for Hacked Command Sets

On Fri, 16 Jun 1995, davidk@sequoia.com wrote:

> Treating all old radios as great works of art is silly. Some
> of the old radios were junk the day they were made and are
> still junk.

I don't believe that's the point. To me, making them perform as intended is a way to revisit another time in the state-of-the art. Although they aren't "great works of art", they are artifacts of another era and especially since so many were destroyed in the late 1940's and 1950's,

preserving them is probably a desirable thing.

If the objective is what the individual considers good design, then there's are simple solutions that don't make trying to make something do what it was never intended unnecessary. Either buy something that already meets the requisite specifications or design something and build it from scratch.

> There are radios that are good and were produced by the
> thousands. Cutting up a Viking II is not a big deal and for
> sure is not insulting future generations. Cutting up a Desk
> Kilowatt is something else. It would be a shame to see any
> more cut up.

A good Viking II can be had for around \$200, but the desk kilowatts I've seen for sale have gone for well over \$1000, and Collins KW-1 are priced above \$15,000. However, does the smaller investment make the Viking II any less desirable? I don't think so. It was, and is, a nice transmitter and I believe is as worthy of preservation as the Johnson desk kilowatt.

> If I owned a KW1 I would do some mods on that from what I heard
> from previous owners. The originals are tough to keep running
> without continual arc'ing. I know of one that has extensive
> mods and sounds great. All the mods installed on that KW1 can
> be backed out so whats the harm?

I don't call remedying a problem "making modifications." To me, modifying means making the rig do something it wasn't intended to do. For example, you can't get the old style electrolytics any more, so we replace them with new ones, sometimes necessarily using shunts to get them to perform at the desired voltage rating. It's not all-original any more, but it allows it to perform to design specifications again.

Getting back to the original point regarding "hacking up" old military radios, from a practical perspective it's not a very good idea. As I've said, the quickest way to turn a \$100 radio onto a \$20 one is to "modify" it. I believe the rule transposes pretty well over to other gear also.

73,

Tony
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:29:26 1995

Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:29:26 -0500
Message-Id: <2FE1D783@sharkgate.sandiegoca.attgis.com>
From: "Kenan, Larry" <llk@sandshark.sandiegoca.attgis.com>
Subject: RE: Cost of type 45 tubes, Radiola 60

>Re: " I got a Radiola 60 with 2.5 volt
>tubes and have just discovered how much 45s cost. I have
>been wondering if some "2" volt TV era tubes could be pressed
>into service. 2AF4s are good for a couple or three watts and
>would probably be happy with 2.5 volts on the heater. Wire a
>seven pin to a 4 pin plug and it wouldn't be original, but it
>would play, maybe."

>

I can't see doing this except as a temporary measure. Heck (as they used to say), I would rather modify an ARC5 than have the wrong tubes in my Radiola 60.

Larry Kenan

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 04:23:07 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 23:23:07 -0500
Message-Id: <MAILQUEUE-101.950617172303.256@vilas.uwex.edu>
From: "Terry O'Laughlin" <OLAUGHLIN@vilas.uwex.edu>
Subject: Daddy, What's A Tube?

Actually I adapted that subject line from the Utah Phillips song, "Daddy, What's A Train?".

I'm not surprised that people don't know what tubes are. Most people don't care what's inside the techno-boxes that serve them. The way things are going, most hams will be like that.

The incident that made me feel dated occurred when the neighbors eight year old boy asked to use the phone in my shaack. I handed it to him and turned back to the bench. "How do I use this?" he said. He'd never seen a rotary dial.

I never thought I'd be an old fart at forty. I don't rant about change but some things are disappearing for the wrong reasons. I grew up listening to clear-channel AMs. Now the dial is filled with satellite filler. It seems like all the stations that had any personality are blearing into the same overprocessed hype. Then I read in today's paper that the Congress is going to eliminate all broadcast ownership restrictions. How much fun will AM BCB DXing be when Rupert Murdoch owns 50% of the stations and the rest are gobbled

up by Ross Perot and that Bertolusci fellow from Italy!

73s Terry O'

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:56:36 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:56:36 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950616152926.16756A-100000@booz.bah.com>
From: k1zat@bah.com
Subject: Re: dark Sucker Theory

> Did I ever tell you guys the story about the "Dark Sucker Theory"?

Y0u mean: It becomes clear that dark is faster than light. If you stand in an illuminated room in front of a closed, dark closet you notice that, as you slowly open the closet door, light slowly enters the closet. However, the dark moves so quickly that you are not able to see the dark leave the closet.

jd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 04:20:43 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 23:20:43 -0500
Message-Id: <121266@w5ddl.aara.org>
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org
Subject: FWD From Swedish R-390A User

Forwarded Text follows:

As a result of an EAC-ad in QTC in the fall of 1968 I placed an order with them for a R-390A. It was delivered late december 1968. Cost \$1700.00, it was a lot of money but I have not regret it for a single moment.

The receiver was excellent except for some paintrepairs to the front panel and 4 bands low in sensitivity due to low xtals.(was later replaced from EAC) The PTO was a COSMOS but filters original COLLINS.
When I asked EAC why they were selling R-390A:s this way, they answered.
"It was a result of overproduction after making several 10.000:s of them during a number of years."

My R-390A has number 51 but have no contractdesignation. I guess it is one

in the commercial series you mention in your list. My feeling is that it is a number a receivers that were not approved for delivery to the military for some reason, in my case, the frontpanel was far away from perfect.

Anyhow, that receiver is still in topshape, having a honorary place among several other examples of US receiver technology, Collins 51J:s,75A:s,75S:s and different version of Hammarlunds Super Pro:s

Finally on funny thing about "boatanchors".

I have two sons, now around 30 years old, always since very young saying the only thing these receivers is good for cud be as "batankare" which is swedish for "boatanchors". You see, different parts of the world but same feeling.

73 and thanks for the listing of R-390A.

de SM7BKH "Ben" Bengt Wilander bkh@bwab.se

end of forward

73 de tom

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:32:58 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:32:58 -0500
Message-Id: <950616162828_71333.144_DHQ69-2@CompuServe.COM>
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>
Subject: GR 724A FS

To shamelesly follow up Dick Dillman's story about using his 724A wavemeter--I have one of these in mint condition for sale for \$49. The case is not mint but everything inside it is.
Any interest?

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:35:11 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:35:11 -0500
Message-Id: <SA39+LCPsja@hrlban1.alhra.af.mil>
From: jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu
Subject: Grunow radio

Re: "I just got a ca. 1936
Grunow that my mother in law remembers listening
to Winston Churchill on. Some clean up and a
gradual turn on to reform the electrolytics may
be necessary here..."

Check to see what kind of filter capacitors your Grunow has. Some (many) of these sets used liquid in the filter capacitors... boric acid among other things in distilled water is one example. Such capacitors make sloshing sounds when moved, and often are identified by an insulated wire coming out the top of the can, through a rubber bushing crimped in place. This allows the capacitor to vent around the wire, but also allows the liquid to evaporate slowly, or leak quickly if the chassis ever is upended. As long as they remained wet, these capacitors were self-healing, but in many cases the liquid has evaporated long ago (radio stored in a hot attic?), and one small short is all it takes to burn out the secondary of the (no longer available) power transformer upon power up. Even if the capacitors are more conventional electrolytics from that era, they probably are leaky electrically, and will put a heavy load on the power transformer. A slow start with a variac is a good idea, but to be safe I would suggest replacing the filter capacitors beforehand as a matter of course.

R/ John Martin

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:13:20 1995
Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:13:20 -0500
Message-Id: <9506161722.AA05932@ihurry>
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: Re: Hacked Command Sets

Great post by Hank. I largely agree. Some surplus gear should be preserved unaltered, for displays, for restored ships and aircraft etc., but basically that stuff was *meant* to be hacked and used when it first came on the market.

I'm led to post a few questions and thoughts of my own --

* How do people feel about hacking modern ricebox gear?
Or at least last year's ricebox, which is now worth less than half what you paid for it anyway?

* Radio magazines of the '20s were full of articles on modifying commercial home receivers. Today, some antique radio collectors feel that such mods, if made back in that time frame, are themselves valid pieces of radio history at a time when most home radio owners had to be pretty close to "amateur operators" to make their sets play for the family.

* I first got into the Internet antique radio newsgroups by posting a query about my GE H-51 (RCA Radiola 82) big muthah console superhet, that had been modified (NOT hacked) to have AGC. The mod was of professional quality and done with vintage parts that were as dusty dull as the rest of the chassis, leading me to believe that this 1930 set was probably upgraded in the early '30s, when all the new sets had AGC.

I feel this set is more interesting than a pristine example. AND a lot more pleasure to use, without getting blasted by strong stations amongst the DX ones.

* I understand the difference between "mods" and "hacks" after checking out more closely the second R390A I got last weekend. The back panel has been HACKED, with the original unbalanced antenna connector being destroyed and having a wire soldered into the center hole, a big hole for a Muffin fan (with the fan removed before I got the set), and Lord only knows what solly-state horrors under the IF chassis for a prodcut detector that detecteth not.

But someone wanted a working radio in a hurry, and presumably got it. Nobody ever bought an R390A for its beauty (unless you count the clockwork inside), they got them to copy DX, and I'm sure someone got a lot of use out of this set after the hacking. Just wish they'd been less destructive.

* Hank, about your FM mod to the SX36, is it needed in the SX42 also? A broadbanding resistor across the discriminator secondary, if I remember right? BTW, I dug out an old Stromberg-Carlson intercom/music speaker in wooden case, with built-in line transformer to match the old BA high-impedance outputs, and you wouldn't believe the BASS those push-pull 6V6s deliver from that SX42! What a radio..... 73, mike k w9nrd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:24:58 1995
Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:24:58 -0500
Message-Id: <199506161706.KAA25662@hobbes.UCSC.EDU>
From: haynes@cats.ucsc.edu (Jim Haynes)
Subject: Re: Hacked Command Sets

Well I'm repeating myself; but I think what we are arguing over is the conflict between making something useful and destroying an heirloom. To use a personal example, when I was a kid in the 1950s I acquired a BC-348 receiver. It was the best (and only) receiver I could afford. Over the years I put a lot of modifications into it: narrowband IF, product detector, AC power supply, various circuit changes supposed to improve one thing or another. And I used it for several years until it developed some frequency jumping problems and I was able to buy a then-modern amateur band receiver (Drake 2-B).

Now if I had that receiver today in its original condition I wouldn't be inclined to modify it at all. I have better receivers than a BC-348 could ever be reworked into; and BC-348s are less plentiful than they once were - I don't know if they are actually considered rare, but you can't just go down to the nearest surplus store and buy one off the shelf. I might get it into working condition and use it to receive shortwave broadcasts and other AM and CW signals. Or I might just set it aside until somebody comes along who needs it to restore an old airplane or build a replica of the radio room of an old airplane. In any case I would regard it as worth more preserved in its original condition than it would be after any modification. I'm purposely leaving "worth" here as a nebulous concept; I don't know whether I mean what I could get for it if I sold it or traded it or if I mean what it is worth to me as a piece of history and work of industrial art.

I suppose we aren't yet completely out of the era when an old piece of vacuum tube gear is the cheapest and best thing a poor beginner can get; but we'll soon enough be at the point where collecting tube gear and keeping it working and using it is an expensive hobby. I suppose too some one could be crass and say "Go ahead and hack up that old BC-348. It will only increase the rarity and future value of the unmodified one I have stashed away."

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:35:25 1995
Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:35:25 -0500
Message-Id: <199506162023.PAA19749@zoom.bga.com>
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Re: Hacked Command Sets

As Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com said

>
> * Hank, about your FM mod to the SX36, is it needed in the SX42 also?
> A broadbanding resistor across the discriminator secondary, if I remember right?
> BTW, I dug out an old Stromberg-Carlson intercom/music speaker in wooden case,
> with built-in line transformer to match the old BA high-impedance outputs,
> and you wouldn't believe the BASS those push-pull 6V6s deliver from that SX42!
> What a radio..... 73, mike k w9nrd

I should clarify here. My radio is an S-36A. It does not have a crystal filter, which was indicated by the "X" in older Hallicrafters designations. It is a derivative of the 1940 S-27, and one of the reasons I bought it was that I had seen an S-27 about to be restored and though it would be fun to "do something different," even though all of that coverage is valuable mostly for FM broadcast and not an awful lot else.

The SX-28A audio is similar, but not identical, to the S-36A. Principal difference is that the S-36A has a switchable feedback network from the output transformer voice coil winding to one side of the phase inverter that is active either a bass boost or a flat response network in two of the four switch positions. The other two run the audio amp open-loop with an RC network across the output tube plates to roll off treble response.

The SX-42 and 43 both have FM capability, but use 10.7 Mhz IF's, whereas the S-27 and S-36 series both use 5.25 Mhz IF's. That gives mighty narrow bandwidth, even overcoupled (the IF's can be switch selected to "narrow" and "broad"). The set uses a very traditional single limiter and Foster-Seely discriminator, and the measured bandwidth of the discriminator with the factory 15K loads was 160 KHz (+/-80)---which is pretty tight to get centered on a 150 Kc. deviation. Langford Smith recommends 200-250 KHz. in Rad. Des. Hdbk. 4th ed. Getting more range means lowering coil Q in the discriminator transformer. After doing a little testing, I ended up hanging 51K's across both sides, which gives bandwidth a little help and doesn't kill gain too much. I also put a few more ohms in the limiter plate circuit to make it saturate a little earlier, to give me full quieting on weaker signals. The IF's (6AC7 and 6AB7) have wall-to-wall gain (those two tubes have Gm up at the moon), though the front end is somewhat weak, as one would suspect. The end result is not super-tremendous compared to later FM receivers. A local station is strong enough to charge right through the narrow IF bandwidth, and the audio is superb. But DX tends to distort on maximum signal because the IF's attenuate maximum deviation too much. I didn't try broadening the IF's with loading resistors through small loads (220K?) might help a bit. The second IF windings measured 22K resistive impedance at resonance; that works out to a Q around 77, which is mighty high for 5.25 Mhz. and 150 KHz bandwidth at 3db. Theoretically, I could overcouple the transformers further by using small caps between the primary and secondary, but that would add a large valley at the resonance peak and introduce distortion if you wanted to use the set for AM with broad IF response. So I left it alone.

The SX42/43/62 all use a much more traditional setup in the IF's with dedicated 10.7 Mhz transformers, and probably have a lot better front end performance. The little acorns in the S-27/36 are cute, but the whole layout of the front end is very obviously just a miniaturized 10 meter setup, with only modest amplification capability. The real interest is in the fact that it is "period." I don't know of any reason why an SX-42 would want similar attention. It was designed after the +/-75KHz deviation standard was in effect, so probably has a bandpass at the discriminator of 225 KHz or so already.

One important gimmick in aligning the S-36A: You align the IF's in the

"sharp" setting, but switching it to "broad" moves the peak about 20 Khz., and you have to re-center the signal generator to the center of the IF peak and tune the discriminator to that frequency to get it to work right. As things stand, I get full quieting on a 20 microvolt signal, but get distortion on loud passages unless I've got around 100 microvolts on the antenna.

One thing that I really can't figure with this set is the S-meter arrangement. On FM, the discriminator output is connected through 470K and the S-meter to ground, and there is a red mark at about 10% from the right-end zero for FM tuning. With a 50 microamp meter, that means 4.7 volts DC at the discriminator output. But the factory alignment procedure and the discriminator characteristics clearly point to centering the output at 0 volts at the center of the signal. I'm assuming the original S-meter was a 50 microamp 1800 ohm meter---the one I have has an open coil, and I have a substitute left-zero 50 microamp meter going together to use. But where are the bias microamps supposed to come from to offset the meter on FM? While other parts of the set don't always agree with the schematic, this is one place where both the set and the schematic show the other end of the meter connected directly to ground. Reworking the AM S-meter circuit to use a left-zero meter is no trick---just hang 220K from the open end of the meter zeroing pot to ground and make sure the meter return is connected to the pot slider, and you have a wheatstone bridge circuit such that you can bias out the idling IF plate current with the zero pot. That will work on all of the right-zero Hallicrafters S-meter circuits I've seen, and makes me wonder if the cost of right-zero meters warranted the savings of leaving one resistor out of the original circuit.

--

Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:16:09 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:16:09 -0500
Message-Id: <199506161602.LAA25489@zoom.bga.com>
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Re: Hammarlund S-Meter

As thaake said
>
>
> RE: Hammarlund S-Meter

>
> Grant NQ5T
>
> Have you tried Robert Fowle yet for the S-Meter??
> I just ordered a RF/Pwr switch control for my HQ-180 from him. Been
> looking for the individual parts to build/repair my own now for 3 years.
> He had one. I understand he specializes in Hammarlund parts.
>
Bob Fowle fixed me up with parts for my HQ-150, which is "museum
original" as a result. However, when I asked him about an S-meter face
(mine is chocolate brown, and the markings are water-soluble) he said
that there was a real need for some entrepreneur to start making
replacements, because there were none available.

--

Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:06:10 1995
Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:06:10 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950617085238.7897A-100000@laurel.us.net>
From: "Tony Stalls (K4KY0)" <ras@us.net>
Subject: Re: Hammarlund S-Meter

On Fri, 16 Jun 1995, thaake@bsm2ee1.attmail.com (thaake) wrote:

> Grant NQ5T

> Have you tried Robert Fowle yet for the S-Meter??
> I just ordered a RF/Pwr switch control for my HQ-180 from him. Been
> looking for the individual parts to build/repair my own now for 3 years.
> He had one. I understand he specializes in Hammarlund parts.

> Robert Fowle
> Amateur Radio Surplus
> 1215 Winifred
> Jackson, Michigan 49202-1946
> Phone: 517-789-6721

Robert now has an e-mail address. Its HAMMARLUND@aol.com

I might add that I've dealt with Robert on several occasions. He's a nice guy and I find his prices to be quite reasonable, especially considering how tough finding original replacement parts can be.

I should add that Robert isn't getting rich doing this. His Hammarlund bone-yard business is a labor of love if there ever was one. I don't know anybody that has as much reverence for things Hammarlund.

73,

Tony
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 04:57:32 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 23:57:32 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950617104226.1520A-1000000@laurel.us.net>
From: "Tony Stalls (K4KY0)" <ras@us.net>
Subject: Hammarlund Source Correction

In my last message, I said that Robert Fowle's e-mail address is "HAMMARLUND@AOL.COM", but that's NOT CORRECT. Robert's correct address is:

HAMRLUND@aol.com

It's a good thing I cc'ed Robert or I wouldn't have caught it. He says they told him that Hammarlund was not available.

Sorry about that folks!

Incidentally, Robert also told me that he has just returned from Mars Hill, NC, (the last home of Hammarlund) where he picked up the remaining Hammarlund NOS parts, including a bunch of power transformers. Now's the time to bring that old HQ or SP back to life!!!

73,

Tony
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:28:10 1995

Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:28:10 -0500
Message-Id: <199506161629.JAA06244@igc3.igc.apc.org>
From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>
Subject: Historic Expeditions

Now that I've admitted to sniffing BC-611s when nobody's watching, I suppose there's no further reason to be shy.

Since we all by definition share an interest in the historic aspects of radio as represented by our precious boatanchors, I wonder how many of us extend that interest to finding and exploring the sites of radio history?

As I mentioned in an earlier message, I've located and explored the site of the Telefunken station at Sayville on Long Island. But there are many more such sites to explore and they are under much greater threat than the equipment we collect.

For example, I recently came across a map at a flea market that had site lines on it between many prominent locations around San Francisco, many of which no longer exist. Two of those locations were labelled "wireless station". Yoiks and tally ho! The first proved to be at Ocean Beach in San Francisco, south of Golden Gate Park. Local residents will know that that area is now covered with housing. But I located the block the former station occupied even though those living there now for some reason objected to my digging up their back yards to look for artifacts. Some people!

The other was in Daly City, south of San Francisco. Here there was some open land left and I stood upon the spot where once brass pounders of old must have caused the rotary gap to groan under the pressure of their perfect Morse.

I have a photo of the interior of another San Francisco wireless station labelled "Hillcrest 1919". It shows the usual assortment of tuners, oscillation transformers, etc. But upon looking closely one can see the security apparatus used by the operator: a .44 revolver in a holster nailed to the leg of the operating table! TVI you say? Take THAT!

The current Aeronautical Radio station is housed in the building originally belonging to Globe Wireless. Two wonderful fixed log periodics grace the site now and I've even been inside (with an invitation) to check out the remotely controlled transmitters.

There are many more such sites here, including for example the original Marconi LW receiving site in Marshall. The buildings,

antenna bases and guy anchors are all still there, along with a very nice exhibit by the Marconi Cove Conference Center now occupying the site. With the advent of shortwaves, the site was replaced with the current receiving location on Pt. Reyes. This new site was selected by none other than Dr. H.H. Beverage, designer of the antenna that carries his name. I had an opportunity to meet the great man several years ago by calling him up and saying "Dr. Beverage, you don't know me but I know you and I'd like to pay my respects." I spent a wonderful afternoon in the study of this courtly old gentleman discussing... well, you can imagine!

So, anyone up for further expeditions to historic radio sites?

Regards,

Dick Dillman

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:50:17 1995
Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:50:17 -0500
Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.01.2.800104230248.jproc@>
From: jproc@worldlinx.com
Subject: Hopalong Capacity

Dear BA's,

Found this little gem in the Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society newsletter and thought I'd share it with everyone.

WANTED DEAD OF ALIVE

A reward of 500 microfarads is offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Hopalong Capacity. Armed with a battery of carbon rods, Capacity is a potential killer. The unrectified criminal escaped from the Weston Primary Cell where he had been clamped in ions awaiting the Gauss chamber. He is charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil, namely Milli Henry, who was found choked and robbed of her joules. Hopalong is also charged with driving a d.c. over the Wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band pass. Be careful not to put him in a trap, as his reactance may offer high resistance. The Electromotive Force spent the night searching for him in a magnetic field. They failed to detect him and now they believe Capacity returned ohm via the short circuit. He was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend Eddy

Current. Eddy was heard playing Ohm on the Range on his harmonic.

Story Source: Navy-Marine Corps MARS Newsletter

Regards,

Jerry Proc VE3FAB
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com
Radio Restoration Volunteer
HMCS Haida Toronto, Ontario

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:08:21 1995
Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:08:21 -0500
Message-Id: <199506180324.WAA24588@quake.xnet.com>
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)
Subject: HQ129X 60hz hum relief

Another in the patented series of 'quick fix' modifications..

I hacked back into my great old 129X and removed my audio modifications that restricted the audio to the speech range. My apologies, but I used this receiver for my regular QSO's for quite a while, and the static on 160 and 80 got more than irritating!

Anyway.. back to nicer wideband audio, but I noticed a tad of 60 hz hum when hooked up to the desirable BA speaker set (pair of 12 inch woofers and 4 inch wide-range midrange, no tweeters). Nothing too bad, but it was reduced considerably by the simple step of rotating the audio output transformer 90 degrees. Apparently there was enough coupling between this iron and the power transformer to cause some 60 hz buzz to be injected into the audio system. A simple change, try it next time you have your 129X apart. A proper mount requires new screw holes, or use my temporary mount method (hot melt glue) if you prefer not to have an extra pair of small holes.

73! - Mark, NE9G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:37:20 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:37:20 -0500
Message-Id: <950616163529_71333.144_DHQ69-3@CompuServe.COM>
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>

Subject: Mods?? We don't need no stinkin' mods...

Well everyone decides for themselves but personally I hate mods. The article in the latest ER that touched off this thread discussed modifications but the photo with it showed three UNmodified radios. Modified command sets are less than \$10 each all over America. Go buy one if you want one, Unmodified command sets are a piece of history and deserve to be in the hands of someone who appreciates them as such.

For me, this hobby is all about experiencing radio the way the original owners of this equipment experienced it. If I want SSB, I'll use an SSB-era radio. If I want selectivity, I'll use a selective rig. But when I want to feel the earth move under the HT-4, I want it to feel the same as it did in 1940 when the rig was made.

Military carbon mics stink. But the feel of a classic tank radio mic is worth as much as its' sound. Stay with the original. It's worth it.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:54:13 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:54:13 -0500
Message-Id: <199506180119.UAA08135@quake.xnet.com>
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)
Subject: My R390A AGC issues, continued

I've been too busy fiddling with my new/first R390A (I'm impressed enough to look for a real nice one sometime!) to read the BA mail (179 new messages this round!), so wanted to thank everybody who had suggestions on my lack of proper AGC action. As a general FYI, here's my troubleshooting tree to date:

Observation: The 390A certainly has enough overall gain. With AGC off, there is sufficient RF to overload the diode detector with internal/background noise before the RF gain gets close to full on (antenna connected, background noise only). Certainly adequate for a high dynamic range design with AGC control.

An overall tube check showed two low-gain 12AU7 sections, replaced same. An alignment run showed everything pretty much on, IF and xtal osc. wise. Since a 1 microvolt signal is audible on any band, I am delaying slug rack alignment as it seems pretty close as is.

Found a lack of solder on the lead running from the plate of the AGC signal amp plate to it's transformer. Minor quality control glitch at the Stewart-Warner Chicago plant, I guess.

With AGC on, advancing the RF gain to the point where AGC action commences (carrier meter moves upscale) is very soon followed by overload of the diode detector (200 uv test signal), which shows about -15 volts or at the diode load test point.

Using an external AGC voltage in 'parallel' with the internal, for any given signal level the required AGC voltage to avoid detector overload always seems to be 2-4 volts greater than what the internal circuit is providing.

I've disconnected every AGC controlled stage in the IF module one at a time by removing one end of the 22k resistor that eventually feeds the grid of the controlled stage and grounding it (after checking for any positive feedthrough from a previous stage transformer or mechanical filter leaking).

No improvement, although I did manage to destroy one standoff insulator in the process (grr!). Boy, every soldered lead is twisted at LEAST 360 degrees around every tie point or lug.. makes component removal rather tedious, but the overall construction quality is superb! Also opened the AGC feed to the RF deck, still no major change in operation. Glad for that, I DON'T want to remove the RF module. The slug racks and gears are in good condition and operate smoothly, I'm reasonably certain I'd foul that up if I had to disassemble the thing!

At this point, I'm guessing that I have something afoul within an IF can that I can't measure. I'm going to look around for a replacement IF module, or someone within an hour or so of Chicagoland that would let me try my IF deck in their 390A, just to verify for me that the problem is within that assembly. Any leads on obtaining a complete IF module? If I had to, I could move the mechanical filters from my current box to the replacement if one were available cheap sans filters or something like that.. Does Fair Radio sell individual modules?

So, quick patches in the meantime department:

I first tried increasing the AGC loop gain by inserting a DC amp (741 op amp) between the AGC output and controlled stages. Nice to have both points available at the rear panel! The end result was a lack of overload but a carrier meter that always reads zero when the AGC DC gain was adjusted to avoid distortion on AM signals. Works, but I like bouncy meter needles (grin).

My current workaround will be described in the next message. It's quick and dirty, and provides rather smooth SSB/CW AGC with no internal modifications.

Folks I've talked to on the air seem to think its a neat idea, and I haven't seen it described as a mod here (probably been in ER a dozen times tho..).

73! - Mark, NE9G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:10:43 1995
Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:10:43 -0500
Message-Id: <199506171738.KAA01982@hobbes.UCSC.EDU>
From: haynes@cats.ucsc.edu (Jim Haynes)
Subject: Numbered messages

Believe it was on this list where somebody was asking about "73" and other numbered messages. There is of course the ARRL list; and if you look in old telegraph books there are lots of such lists, presumably excerpted from telegraph company official lists. Here's one from the Lewis Coe book, "The Telegraph". Actually he says these are numbers used as abbreviations on Morse telegraph lines, rather than canned-text customer messages.

1: Wait a minute
2: Very important
3: Give me the correct time
4: Where shall I start?
5: Do you have anything for me?
6: I have business; are you ready?
8: Close your key; you are breaking. [How would you send this if the other guy had his key open?]
9: Wire chief's call - wire tests.
13: Understand?
14: What is your weather?
18: What's the trouble?
19: Train order.
22: Busy on another wire.
25: Busy on another wire.
31: Train order.
55: Important
73: Best regards
92: Deliver.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 05:00:37 1995
Date: Sun, 18 Jun 1995 00:00:37 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950617090135.7897B-1000000@laurel.us.net>
From: "Tony Stalls (K4KY0)" <ras@us.net>
Subject: Re: Power Line- House Purchase Question

On Thu, 15 Jun 1995, Tony Smithson wrote:

> I am considering buying a house not too far out in the country but
> not in the city. The house is new construction. Next to the lot on
> which the house sits is a large high tension power line. I don't know
> the voltage but there are 3 parallel poles with 6 pairs of wires
> (additional ground wires as well.)

While running the risk of sounding a little like the notorious Wayne Green (shudder!) <g>, you might also consider the potential health risks of living so close to the lines. There is a lot of controversy about this subject and the jury is still out. However, the power companies seem convinced there's no problem and they tell us not to worry, but then so did the tobacco companies when they were confronted with the possibility that smoking was dangerous.

Putting the effects in a personal perspective, I'm an avid bicyclist and when I ride the bike trails on weekdays when they're not crowded, I frequently ride one that built on an old railroad roadbed. There are power lines similar to what you described that generally follow the route for a good distance and occasionally are right beside or over the trail. When they're that close, my wireless heart-rate monitor goes blank and then comes back on when I get further away.

Passing through fields that strong can't be healthy and I don't think that living close to them is worth taking the chance. I whole-heartily agree with James Owen's perspective, "if you can see it, its too close".

73,

Tony
K4KY0

<ras@us.net>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:52:18 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:52:18 -0500
Message-Id: <199506180120.UAA08151@quake.xnet.com>
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)
Subject: Quick 'N Dirty R390A SSB/CW AGC

Here's a five minute mod that will provide entirely workable SSB/CW AGC action for your R390A (and probably any other receiver that has dual audio

channels). I can't claim ownership, as this is too simple for someone not to have done before, but I haven't seen it described here on the list.

I took the 600 ohm line level audio signal from the rear panel and fed it through a bridge rectifier using small signal diodes (1N914/916/4148 types).

The resultant pulsating DC output (At an audio rate) is smoothed with a 10uf cap. The positive output is grounded, and I feed the negative output to the tie point on the rear panel where the regular AGC jumper is located. The line level adjust on the front panel is adjusted for the desired AGC action (usually max in my case).

By keeping the existing AGC circuit in the loop, my carrier meter now reads the greater negative voltage applied from this audio AGC circuit (my 390A has low AGC output), and carrier meter readings actually make some sense now (although it's more measuring recovered audio than RF at this point!).

The existing slow/medium/fast AGC filter cap circuitry still functions to provide the desired action, which is a plus. If you want faster decay, try a 330k resistor between the AGC output and ground, or something smaller than a 10uf filter cap.

Notes: If your 390A has the ?db 600 ohm H-pad in series between the rear panel line output and the audio output transformer, this probably won't work. There won't be enough AF signal to drive the bridge to generate the 0 to -15 volts or so required. Jumper across the 200 ohm pad resistors if they exist in your unit (my schematic shows them as an option, my 390A didn't use the pad).

I inserted a small audio transformer between the rear panel connections and the diode bridge to provide a voltage stepup. Since you can control the available voltage from 0 to max from the front panel control, it's better to have more voltage available than needed. I used a little telco style 600-600 ohm transformer that had center taps. The line output of the receiver goes to a center tap, and the bridge is connected across the full secondary, giving me a 2:1 voltage increase. Even a small filament transformer might work for this purpose, as the frequency response and exact step up ratio isn't important. This may not be required at all if your line audio channel can deliver enough AF volts by itself.

The above provides quite smooth SSB and CW operation, with essentially constant audio output as I tune around. Combined with my existing half-broken internal AGC on the 390A, the results are also fair for AM reception as long as there aren't any long pauses in audio that permit the receiver gain to creep back up. I'll be sticking to manual gain control on AM with my receiver until I get the darn internal circuitry fixed. This little audio derived SSB/CW circuit may stay, though. Works well and is a lot cheaper than an external full-fledged SSB converter! Although I wonder how well my RME 4301 would work with the 390A.. hmmm...<grin>.

73! - Mark, NE9G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 04:12:58 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 23:12:58 -0500
Message-Id: <9505168033.AA803340326@mail.creo.bc.ca>
From: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
Subject: Re[2]: No more tubes

Paul mourns the loss of his totally toobular teevee:

> Wouldn't you know it. My 1976 RCA colour TV--the first one
> I've ever had--went flat line last nite of massive toobicide...
> (deleted...)
> But I gotta ask: Do any dumpster divers on board know
> offhand whether TV power supplies or other vital organs can be
> salvaged?

Of course you can salvage stuff! While the power supply is probably iffy - forget it if the set uses series-string filaments - dead tv sets are a gold mine of components! Look for stacks of passive components of useful voltage ratings, handy switches and knobs, reams of multi-coloured wire (you should see the archaic beta VCR I'm ripping apart!), and so on. Not to mention the tubes. If the set is blessed with a power transformer, you can estimate its power capacity with a ruler and the graphs in references like old ARRL Handbooks.

For many years our family tv set was a 1970-ish black & white Admiral. Until retired with low crt emission, the only tube it ever needed was (several) 38HE7 horizontal output/damper tubes. The first one lasted years; replacements blew the damper section's plate wide open in about a year. Even then 38HE7s were \$12 each, which was quite a bit of money in 1976...

Its replacement is a rice-box, hooked up to a C-Band satellite dish (beyond the reach of cable). First colour tv we ever owned...and while the setup is all s*1*d-st*te (except for the crt), Dad got the dish surplus from BCTel, pounded the dents out, enlisted me and some analytic geometry to determine the dish parameters, and made an az-el mount out of an old car rear end embedded in cement, with some welded-on bits and pieces. Home-made welder, of course, from Popular

Mechanics...and instead of remote-control actuators, a couple of ex-BCTel phones, with wires from the living room out to the dish to aim it manually with feedback from somebody watching the set.

The local charity stores (e.g. Salvation Army) no longer even *accept* tube radios and tvs. :-(

73 from Burnaby,
laura VE7LDH who uses a dud Varian VA-222F klystron as a paperweight at work and wishes she still her high school collection of dud pencil tubes, lighthouse tubes, klystrons and TWTs...

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:45:41 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:45:41 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9506161804.C20224-0100000@mm1001.theporch.com>
From: Kevin J Pease <kevin@mm1001.theporch.com>
Subject: Re: speaker

The speaker is on its way. It shipped UPS today, June 16. Am posting to the list since I don't know if you are getting my messages. Have heard no replys. The UPS tracking number is 13 310 X12 03 1220 669 0. Shipping cost is \$12.65.

Did you ship the parts radio ?

Kevin J Pease
WB0JZG Mt Juliet, TN.
mm1001.theporch.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 04:18:25 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 23:18:25 -0500
Message-Id: <MAILQUEUE-101.950617174357.352@vilas.uwex.edu>
From: "Terry O'Laughlin" <OLAUGHLIN@vilas.uwex.edu>
Subject: Re: SX-42 comments

> I agree with ANDy that the layout, physical design, and appearance of
> the front panel are really striking! It looks like the really old classic
> Halli sets, with the big round dial showing only the upper half,
> the Marrlund-style bandspread window in the middle, and the S-meter on the
right.

The SX-42 was supposed to be striking. Hallicrafters hired industrial designer Raymond Loewi to package the unit. I've seen it featured in several books on 1950s industrial design.

73s Terry O'

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:19:25 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:19:25 -0500
Message-Id: <SA39+Pi0sja@hrlban1.alhra.af.mil>
From: jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu
Subject: Telefunken WW-1 radio station on Long Island

Re: "One of these sites is in the town of Sayville on Long Island, New York. It was here, as I suspect many readers of the BA list will know, that Telefunken set up a station to communicate with Nauen, Germany, before the Great War (WWI). After the outbreak of hostilities an amateur radio operator named Apgar was able to prove that the Sayville station was in fact sending coded messages to Germany regarding US ship movements by recording the high speed transmissions on a wax cylinder recorder and slowing them down."

I suggest you put Ms. Constance Currie in touch with the Antique Wireless Association, located in Breesport, NY (near Rochester). If any organization can identify equipment of that era, the AWA can.

R/ John Martin

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 04:54:45 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 23:54:45 -0500
Message-Id: <121017@w5ddl.aara.org>
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org
Subject: Value of 10,000 B-17's

The whole deal on the mods to ARC-5's has to do with the supply of these doorstops after the war. There were billions of these boxes made, and they were priced for a song.

What if there were 10,000 B-17's on the market today. They would be cheap and nobody would care if a guy hung a turbine engine on the nose. This is (was) the same situation with the ARC-5's, BC-348's etc. If they cost a song, why not hack them up. You could always get more.

You wouldn't catch a ham hacking a KW-1 up too wildly, mainly because

he had to pay months of salary to get the thing. But if the govt had sold thousands of KW-1's to the public, there would have been a lot more hacking done.

Since there are just a handful of B-17's left, the hacking has stopped. The same will happen to ARC-5's when (if) the value ever climbs.

This whole thing can be reduced to \$\$\$ as with most things.

73 and Happy Father's Day to All The Dads!!

Tom

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 04:28:54 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 23:28:54 -0500
Message-Id: <199506170138.SAA23716@desiree.teleport.com>
From: ross@hypertools.com (David Ross)
Subject: Was someone looking for a 51J-4 KCs dial?

Please describe the size, shape, and markings.

Dave Ross KA6EPI ross@hypertools.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 04:50:18 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 23:50:18 -0500
Message-Id: <199506161739.AA244114351@hpcmmp13.sj.hp.com>
From: Mikhael Brown <mikhael@hpcmmp13.sj.hp.com>
Subject: WTB BC-610

I am looking for a BC-610. Working if possible, at least with all the parts. It should be within 1 days drive of SF Bay area.

Please contact me via e-mail: mikhael@hpcmmp13.sj.hp.com

or phone (510) 505-5582 wrk
(408) 578-1076 hm

73

Mike

N6WIG

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Jun 18 03:39:38 1995
Date: Sat, 17 Jun 1995 22:39:38 -0500
Message-Id: <9506161642.AA09009@batdd6.pica.army.mil>
From: klaudon@PICA.ARMY.MIL
Subject: Yellowed Hammarlund s-meter

Grant NQ5T writes:

>I need the meter scale for a S-meter from an HQ-160/170/180 series receiver.
>The scale needs to be translucent plastic, i.e. capable of being rear lighted.
>
>I'm looking for a replacement for an HQ-160 I picked up last weekend, which
>has a very darkly yellowed scale. Either a whole meter or just the scale
>itself.
>
>Grant/NQ5T

Grant, a funny thing happened to me on the way to the forum, or last time I went to a hamfest, that is. I saw a VERY nice looking HQ 170 (I think it was an -A). It even had Saran wrap carefully stretched over the panel to keep it nice. It looked excellent and original - not restored. Really a pleasure to look at. But what struck me was as follows - the s-meter scale did NOT have a white, or off-white background (with fine black markings). It had a sort of burnt-orange colored background! Quite tasteful, nicely colored, and it LOOKED ORIGINAL. I think I have even seen this on a Hammarlund ad sometime, or perhaps, on the poorly reproduced photos that appeared on the front of the manuals.

I myself picked up a pretty clean HQ 145 A (X, I believe), which is also very rare. I'd never seen one before. I was pleasantly surprised last month when that picture of the radio room in the Hanoi Hilton was published in QST (or was it the embassy in Saigon?), and next to the R390s, was verily an HQ 145A!! The 145 has the clock on the right hand side, and the notch filter controls on the left.

Trouble is, my 145 is basically dead. It barely receives the strongest local BC station (WABC in NYC). It does get a local station. That's about it. Pretty face but nothing upstairs :).

Guess it needs some work. Any suggestions as to where to start, anyone?

But as far as your meter goes, Grant, you might just have what you're SUPPOSED to have!

Gud luck es 73,

Kalman Laudon, AA2UQ CW, QRP, Hollow State Radios, and CW!!
<klaudon@pica.army.mil>
previously - WD6CZI, WA1SUF
"Get your facts first, then you may distort them as you please." - Mark Twain
